

U.S.S.N.: 10/032,949

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

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18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (New) A memory controller for accessing a flash memory having a plurality of physical blocks each including a plurality of pages and in which stored data is erased in a unit of the physical block, based on a host address which is in unit of a sector of data, supplied from a host computer, comprising:

search means for searching a start page, corresponding to a last page of at least one page to which data is written, in said physical block corresponding to the host address supplied from the host computer;

determining means for determining whether the at least one page designated by the host address or addresses supplied from the host computer are the searched start page, the searched start page and subsequent at least one page, or at least one page located after the start page;

write means for writing data supplied from the host computer into at least one page designated by the host address or host addresses supplied from the host computer when the determining means determines that the page or pages designated by the host address or host addresses supplied from the host computer are the searched start page, the searched start page and subsequent at least one page, or at least one page located after the start page; and

start page information write means for writing start page information into a redundancy area of a start page at a time when the write means starts writing data supplied from the host computer into the flash memory;,,

the start page information representing a next page of a page into which data of last sector of the data supplied from the host computer is to be written;

a page being next page of a page which is in a physical block corresponding to the host address supplied from the host computer and into which last data is to be written becoming new start page,

the search means searching the start page based on the start information.

22. (New) A memory controller as set forth in claim 21 including a flash memory system having a flash memory.

23. (New) A memory control method for accessing a flash memory having a plurality of physical blocks each including a plurality of pages and in which stored data is erased in unit of the physical block, based on a host address which is in unit of a sector of data, supplied from a host computer, comprising:

searching a start page, corresponding to a last page of a page or pages to which data is written, in a physical block corresponding to the host address supplied from the host computer;

determining whether a page or pages designated by the host address or addresses supplied from the host computer are the searched start page, the searched start page and subsequent at least one page, or at least one page located after the start page;

writing data supplied from the host computer into at least one page designated by the host address or host addresses supplied from the host computer when determining that the page pages designated by the host address or host addresses supplied from the host computer are the searched start page, the searched start page and subsequent at least one page, or at least one page located after the start page; and

writing start page information into a redundancy area of a start page at a time when starting writing data supplied from the host computer into the flash memory;

the start page information representing a next page of a page into which data of last sector of the data supplied from the host computer is to be written;

a page being next page of a page which is in a physical block corresponding to the host address supplied from the host computer and into which last data is to be written becoming new start page;

the start page being searched based on the start information.